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Les Hallman has over 31 years experience in emergency services. Prior to his appointment as Fire Chief for the City of Newberg in March of 2009, Les served as the highest ranking fire official in the State of Florida – Director of the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal. Prior to that, Les was a Fire Chief in Florida for over 12 years and served on the Executive Board of the Florida Fire Chiefs Association. Les was extremely active with the Florida State Emergency Response Plan and served as the Emergency Services Branch Chief at the State EOC on numerous activations. Following Hurricane Katrina, Les served as Operations Chief for Florida Forward Command in the State of Mississippi coordinating over 2,000 responders. Les have been an active member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs since 1995.

Even though Les is a 4th generation native of Florida, he and his family have fallen in love with the Pacific Northwest and proudly call themselves Oregonians.